Asymptotic Entanglement Manipulation of Bipartite Pure States

Garry Bowen and Nilanjana Datta

Abstract—Entanglement of pure states of bipartite quantum systems has been shown to have a unique measure in terms of the von Neumann entropy of the reduced states of either of its subsystems. The measure is established under entanglement manipulation of an asymptotically large number of copies of the states. In this paper, different asymptotic measures of entanglement assigned to arbitrary sequences of bipartite pure states are shown to coincide only when the sequence is information stable, in terms of the quantum spectral information rates of the sequence of subsystem states. Additional bounds on the optimal rates of entanglement manipulation protocols in quantum information are also presented, including bounds given by generalizations of the coherent information and the relative entropy of entanglement.

Index Terms—Quantum Information, Entanglement, Information Spectrum.

I. Introduction

ENTANGLEMENT in quantum information theory is a resource that has no counterpart in classical information theory. Consequently, entanglement based protocols such as quantum cryptography [1], quantum dense coding [2], and quantum teleportation [3], are unique to the domain of quantum information theory.

As for any resource, it is useful to have a measure of entanglement for quantum states. A vast literature exists on various measures of entanglement for both bipartite and multipartite quantum states (see e.g. [4] for a review).

As entanglement is a non-local quantum resource, one of its fundamental property is that it cannot be reliably increased under local operations and classical communication (abbreviated to LOCC). Therefore, if one state can be transformed into another by LOCC, then the target state must necessarily have no more entanglement than the original state. By defining the entanglement E of a maximally entangled state of rank M,

$$|\Psi_M^+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} \sum_{i=1}^M |i^A\rangle |i^B\rangle \tag{1}$$

in $\mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B$ as being $E(|\Psi_M^+\rangle \langle \Psi_M^+|) = \log M$, we gain a benchmark state against which to measure the entanglement of other states. Note that the base to which the logarithm is

This work was supported by the EPSRC (Research Grant GR/S92816/01). G. Bowen is with the Centre for Quantum Computation, Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB3 0WA, UK (e-mail: gab30@damtp.cam.ac.uk).

N. Datta is with the Statistical Laboratory, Department of Pure Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB3 0WB, UK (e-mail: N.Datta@statslab.cam.ac.uk).

taken, simply determines the units in which entanglement is measured¹.

Upper and lower bounds on the entanglement of an arbitrary bipartite state ρ may then be constructed by determining the minimal rank of a maximally entangled state that can be transformed into ρ by LOCC, and similarly by determining the largest rank maximally entangled state that ρ may be transformed into by LOCC. We refer to the transformation of one entangled state to another, via LOCC alone, as entanglement manipulation. For pure bipartite states a theorem of Nielsen [5] gives a criterion under which a pure bipartite state may be transformed into another pure bipartite state by LOCC alone. This provides a useful tool in determining the entanglement of these states.

As well as establishing bounds on entanglement for individual states, states may be assigned an asymptotic measure of entanglement. This is done by considering the entanglement manipulation of the state ϱ_n given by n copies of the original bipartite state ρ , i.e.,

$$\varrho_n = \rho^{\otimes n},\tag{2}$$

the n copies represented by an n-fold tensor product. The asymptotic measure of the entanglement of ρ is then given by

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} E(\rho^{\otimes n}). \tag{3}$$

By relaxing the condition that the transformation to (or from) a maximally entangled state be exact for finite n, but requiring that the fidelity of the transformation approaches one as $n \to \infty$, we obtain the two asymptotic measures of entanglement called the entanglement of distillation (or distillable entanglement) $E_D(\rho)$ [6], and the entanglement cost $E_C(\rho)$ [7], respectively.

In the case of pure bipartite states $\phi^{AB} \in \mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B$, it has been shown that the unique measure of entanglement is given by [8]

$$E = S(\rho), \tag{4}$$

where $S(\rho) = -{\rm Tr}\rho\log\rho$ is the von Neumann entropy of the reduced state $\rho = {\rm Tr}_B\phi^{AB}$. The uniqueness arises from the fact that the distillable entanglement E_D and entanglement cost E_C of any bipartite state ρ represent limits for any asymptotic bipartite entanglement measure [9]. That is, for any other asymptotic entanglement measure E we have

$$E_D \le E \le E_C \tag{5}$$

¹Throughout this paper, we choose the logarithm to base *e*. We could equally well choose an arbitrary base for the logarithm. This would simply scale the unit of information.

for any bipartite state ρ . Moreover, it is known that the transformation to and from a maximally entangled state may be achieved at this rate with vanishing amounts of classical communication [10].

The practical ability to transform entanglement from one form to another is useful for many applications in quantum information theory. However, it is not always justified to assume that the entanglement resource available, consists of states which are multiple copies (and hence tensor products) of a given entangled state. More generally, an entanglement resource is characterized by an arbitrary sequence of bipartite states which are not necessarily of the tensor product form (2). In order to examine entanglement manipulation for such resources it is possible to use the tools provided by the information spectrum methodology. The information spectrum, derived in classical information theory by Verdu & Han [11], [12], has been extended into quantum information by Hayashi & Nagaoka [13], [14], initially in terms of quantum hypothesis testing. The power of the information spectrum approach comes from the lack of assumptions made about the sources, channels or resources involved.

For an arbitrary sequences of states $\rho = \{\rho_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$, two real-valued quantities $\underline{S}(\rho)$ and $\overline{S}(\rho)$ can be defined (see Section II-E or [15]). These are referred to as the *inf-spectral entropy rate* and the *sup-spectral entropy rate* of ρ , respectively. In this paper, we show that for arbitrary sequences of bipartite pure states $\phi = \{\phi_n^{AB}\}_{n=1}^\infty$ the asymptotic entanglement is given by a single measure only when the sequence of reduced states (of either subsystem) is *information stable*. By information stable, we mean that the inf-spectral entropy rate of the sequence $\rho = \{\rho_n\}_{n=1}^\infty = \{\operatorname{Tr}_B\phi_n^{AB}\}_{n=1}^\infty$ is equal to the sup-spectral entropy rate, that is $\underline{S}(\rho) = \overline{S}(\rho)$. Information stability is also known as the strong converse property. If $\underline{S}(\rho) < \overline{S}(\rho)$ then a separation exists between entanglement measures. We show this by proving that the entanglement cost of the sequence ϕ is given by $\underline{S}(\rho)$, whereas it is known that the distillable entanglement is given by $\underline{S}(\rho)$ [16].

Moreover, for information stable sequences the asymptotic entanglement may be expressed in the form

$$E = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} S(\rho_n), \tag{6}$$

the von Neumann entropy rate of the reduced states of either subsystem.

In addition, we provide bounds on entanglement distillation rates for sequences of *arbitrary* bipartite states. The bounds include information spectrum generalizations of the coherent information bounds [17], under local operations involving no communication and LOCC bounds for one-way or two-way classical communication. Further to this, an information spectrum generalization of the relative entropy of entanglement E_R [18] is shown to provide an asymptotic upper bound on the distillable entanglement under arbitrary LOCC protocols.

In Section II we outline some basic mathematic preliminaries. Section III contains proofs of the generalizations of the coherent information and relative entropy of entanglement bounds. Following this, Section IV contains a review of the entanglement concentration result of Hayashi [16] as well as

a new proof of the weak converse. Section V shows that the entanglement cost for sequences of bipartite pure states is given by the sup-spectral entropy rate of the sequence of states on either subsystem. Finally, in Section VI we give a unified presentation of what the combined results achieve in terms of the asymptotic entanglement of sequences of bipartite pure states.

II. MATHEMATICAL PRELIMINARIES

Let $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ denote the algebra of linear operators acting on a finite-dimensional Hilbert space \mathcal{H} of dimension d. Quantum states are represented by density matrices ρ , i.e. positive operators of unit trace in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Bipartite quantum states are states on Hilbert spaces $\mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B$, with A and B denoting the two parties sharing the state. Sequences of bipartite states on AB are considered to exist on Hilbert spaces $\mathcal{H}_A^{(n)} \otimes \mathcal{H}_B^{(n)}$ for $n \in \{1,2,3,\ldots\}$. In this paper, the shorthand notation $\phi_n^{AB} := |\phi_n^{AB}\rangle\langle\phi_n^{AB}|$ is used to denote density matrices of pure states.

A. Fidelity and Reliable Transformations

Let \mathcal{T}_n be a quantum operation used for the transformation of an initial bipartite state ρ_n to a bipartite pure state $|\sigma_n\rangle$. For the entanglement manipulation processes considered in this paper, \mathcal{T}_n either consists of local operations (LO) alone or LO with one-way or two-way classical communication. We define the fidelity of any entanglement manipulation process in terms of the overlap between the output state $\mathcal{T}_n(\rho_n)$ and the target state $|\sigma_n\rangle$. Specifically,

$$F_n := \langle \sigma_n | \mathcal{T}_n(\rho_n) | \sigma_n \rangle$$

$$= \operatorname{Tr} \left[\mathcal{T}_n(\rho_n) \sigma_n \right] \tag{7}$$

which is the square of the usual fidelity measure [19]. An entanglement manipulation process is said to be *reliable* if the asymptotic fidelity $\mathcal{F} := \liminf_{n \to \infty} F_n = 1$.

B. Entanglement Rates

The concept of reliable entanglement manipulation is then used to define two important asymptotic entanglement measures.

Definition 1: A real-valued number R is said to be an achievable distillation rate if $\forall \epsilon > 0, \, \exists N$ such that $\forall n \geq N$ a transformation exists that takes $\rho_n \to |\Psi_{M_n}^+\rangle\langle\Psi_{M_n}^+|$ with fidelity $F_n \geq 1 - \epsilon$ and $\frac{1}{n}\log M_n \geq R$.

Definition 2: The distillable entanglement is the supremum of all achievable distillation rates,

$$E_D = \sup R \tag{8}$$

for the required class of transformations (local operations only, or local operations with one-way or two-way communication).

Definition 3: A real-valued number R^* is said to be an achievable dilution rate if $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists N$ such that $\forall n \geq N$ a transformation exists that takes $|\Psi^+_{M_n}\rangle\langle\Psi^+_{M_n}| \to \rho_n$ with fidelity $F_n \geq 1 - \epsilon$ and $\frac{1}{n}\log M_n \leq R^*$.

Definition 4: The entanglement cost is the infimum of all achievable dilution rates,

$$E_C = \inf R^* \tag{9}$$

for the required class of transformations.

C. Spectral Projections

The quantum information spectrum approach requires the extensive use of spectral operators. For a self-adjoint operator A written in its spectral decomposition $A = \sum_i \lambda_i |i\rangle\langle i|$ we define the positive spectral projection on A as

$$\{A \ge 0\} = \sum_{\lambda_i > 0} |i\rangle\langle i| \tag{10}$$

the projector onto the eigenspace of positive eigenvalues of A. Corresponding definitions apply for the other spectral projections $\{A < 0\}$, $\{A > 0\}$ and $\{A \le 0\}$. For two operators A and B, we can then define $\{A \ge B\}$ as $\{A - B \ge 0\}$, and similarly for the other ordering relations.

D. Several Important Lemmas

The following key lemmas are used repeatedly in the paper. For their proofs see [15].

Lemma 1: For self-adjoint operators A, B and any positive operator $0 \le P \le I$ the inequality

$$\operatorname{Tr}[P(A-B)] \le \operatorname{Tr}[\{A \ge B\}(A-B)]$$
 (11)

holds.

Lemma 2: For self-adjoint operators A and B, and any completely positive trace-preserving (CPTP) map \mathcal{T} the inequality

$$\operatorname{Tr}[\{\mathcal{T}(A) \ge \mathcal{T}(B)\}\mathcal{T}(A-B)] \le \operatorname{Tr}[\{A \ge B\}(A-B)]$$
(12)

holds.

Lemma 3: Given a state ρ_n and a self-adjoint operator ω_n , we have

$$\operatorname{Tr}\left[\left\{\rho_n \ge e^{n\gamma}\omega_n\right\}\omega_n\right] \le e^{-n\gamma}.$$
 (13)

for any real γ .

E. Quantum Spectral Information Rates

In the Quantum Information Spectrum approach, one defines spectral divergence rates, which can be viewed as generalizations of the quantum relative entropy. The spectral generalizations of the von Neumann entropy, the conditional entropy and the mutual information can all be expressed as spectral divergence rates.

Definition 5: Given two sequences of states $\rho = \{\rho_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ and $\omega = \{\omega_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, the quantum spectral sup-(inf-)divergence rates are defined in terms of the difference operators $\Pi_n(\gamma) = \rho_n - e^{n\gamma}\omega_n$, as

$$\overline{D}(\rho \| \omega) = \inf \left\{ \gamma : \limsup_{n \to \infty} \text{Tr} \left[\{ \Pi_n(\gamma) \ge 0 \} \Pi_n(\gamma) \right] = 0 \right\}$$
(14)

$$\underline{D}(\rho \| \omega) = \sup \Big\{ \gamma : \liminf_{n \to \infty} \operatorname{Tr} \big[\{ \Pi_n(\gamma) \ge 0 \} \Pi_n(\gamma) \big] = 1 \Big\},$$
(15)

respectively.

The spectral entropy rates and the conditional spectral entropy rates can be expressed as divergence rates with appropriate substitutions for the sequence of operators $\omega = \{\omega_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$. These are

$$\overline{S}(\rho) = -\underline{D}(\rho|I) \tag{16}$$

$$\underline{S}(\rho) = -\overline{D}(\rho|I) \tag{17}$$

and for sequences of bipartite state $\rho^{AB}=\{\rho^{AB}_n\}_{n=1}^\infty,$

$$\overline{S}(A|B) = -\underline{D}(\rho^{AB}|I^A \otimes \rho^B)$$
(18)

$$\underline{S}(A|B) = -\overline{D}(\rho^{AB}|I^A \otimes \rho^B) . \tag{19}$$

In the above, $I^A = \{I_n^A\}_{n=1}^\infty$ and $\rho^A = \{\rho_n^A\}_{n=1}^\infty$, with I_n^A being the identity operator in $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_A^{(n)})$ and $\rho_n^A = \mathrm{Tr}_B \rho_n^{AB}$, the partial trace being taken on the Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}_B^{(n)}$. Various properties and relationships of these quantities are explored in [15].

III. BOUNDS ON ENTANGLEMENT

For sequences of bipartite states we may obtain several bounds on the asymptotic entanglement. The first family of bounds are generalizations of the coherent information bounds [17]. The four inequalities in this family, implicitly contained in (20), represent upper bounds on the distillable entanglement in the following cases respectively: local operations with (i) no classical communication, (ii) forward classical communication, (iii) backward classical communication and (iv) twoway classical communication.

Theorem 1: The distillable entanglement for a sequence of bipartite states $\rho^{AB} = \{\rho_n^{AB}\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, is bounded above by

$$E_D(\rho^{AB}) \le \max_{\sigma} I_B(\mathcal{T}(\rho^{AB}))$$
 (20)

where $I_B(\omega^{AB}) = -\overline{S}(A|B)$ the negative of the supconditional spectral entropy rate of the sequence ω_n^{AB} , and $\mathcal{T} = \{\mathcal{T}_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is a sequence of maps representing either local operations on A, or, local operations with forward, backward, or two-way communication.

Proof: For any quantum operation \mathcal{T}_n , define $\omega_n^{AB}=\mathcal{T}_n(\rho_n^{AB})$. Then

$$F_{n} = \operatorname{Tr}\left[|\Psi_{M_{n}}^{+}\rangle\langle\Psi_{M_{n}}^{+}|\mathcal{T}_{n}(\rho_{n}^{AB})\right]$$

$$\leq \operatorname{Tr}\left[\left\{\omega_{n}^{AB} \geq e^{n\gamma}I_{n}^{A}\otimes\omega_{n}^{B}\right\}(\omega_{n}^{AB} - e^{n\gamma}I_{n}^{A}\otimes\omega_{n}^{B})\right]$$

$$+ e^{n\gamma}\operatorname{Tr}\left[|\Psi_{M_{n}}^{+}\rangle\langle\Psi_{M_{n}}^{+}|(I_{n}^{A}\otimes\omega_{n}^{B})\right] \qquad (21)$$

$$\leq \operatorname{Tr}\left[\left\{\omega_{n}^{AB} \geq e^{n\gamma}I_{n}^{A}\otimes\omega_{n}^{B}\right\}(\omega_{n}^{AB} - e^{n\gamma}I_{n}^{A}\otimes\omega_{n}^{B})\right]$$

$$+ \frac{e^{n\gamma}}{M_{n}}. \qquad (22)$$

The first inequality follows from Lemma 1 and the second one is obtained by explicit evaluation of the last term in (21). Substituting $\frac{1}{n}\log M_n \geq R = -\overline{S}(A|B) + \delta$ and $\gamma = -\overline{S}(A|B) + \delta/2$, the asymptotic fidelity is bounded above by $1 - \epsilon_0$ for some $\epsilon_0 > 0$.

The next theorem expresses a generalization of the bound on distillable entanglement given by the relative entropy of entanglement [20]. The bound is not tight in general, although it reduces to the von Neumann entropy in the case of tensor products of pure states.

Theorem 2: The two-way distillable entanglement is bounded above by the inf-spectral relative entropy of entanglement. Specifically,

$$E_D(\rho^{AB}) \le \min_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}} \underline{D}(\rho^{AB} \| \sigma^{AB})$$
 (23)

where \mathcal{D} is the set of sequences of states that are separable on AB.

Proof: For a maximally entangled state $|\Psi^+_{M_n}\rangle\langle\Psi^+_{M_n}|$ of rank M_n , the fidelity under two-way LOCC maps \mathcal{T}_n is bounded by

$$F_{n} = \operatorname{Tr}\left[|\Psi_{M_{n}}^{+}\rangle\langle\Psi_{M_{n}}^{+}|\mathcal{T}_{n}(\rho_{n}^{AB})\right]$$

$$\leq \operatorname{Tr}\left[\left\{\mathcal{T}_{n}(\rho_{n}^{AB}) \geq \mathcal{T}_{n}(\omega_{n}^{AB})\right\}\mathcal{T}_{n}(\rho_{n}^{AB} - \omega_{n}^{AB})\right]$$

$$+ \operatorname{Tr}\left[|\Psi_{M_{n}}^{+}\rangle\langle\Psi_{M_{n}}^{+}|\mathcal{T}_{n}(\omega_{n}^{AB})\right]$$

$$\leq \operatorname{Tr}\left[\left\{\rho_{n}^{AB} \geq \omega_{n}^{AB}\right\}\left(\rho_{n}^{AB} - \omega_{n}^{AB}\right)\right]$$

$$+ \operatorname{Tr}\left[|\Psi_{M_{n}}^{+}\rangle\langle\Psi_{M_{n}}^{+}|\mathcal{T}_{n}(\omega_{n}^{AB})\right]. \tag{25}$$

The first term on the RHS of (25) is obtained by using Lemma 2. By choosing $\omega_n^{AB}=e^{n\gamma}\sigma_n^{AB}$, for any separable state σ_n^{AB} , the last term on RHS of (25) is bounded by

$$\operatorname{Tr}\left[|\Psi_{M_n}^+\rangle\langle\Psi_{M_n}^+|\mathcal{T}_n(\omega^{AB})\right] \le \frac{e^{n\gamma}}{M_n},$$
 (26)

and hence

$$F_n \le \text{Tr}\left[\left\{\rho_n^{AB} \ge e^{n\gamma}\sigma_n^{AB}\right\}\left(\rho_n^{AB} - e^{n\gamma}\sigma_n^{AB}\right)\right] + \frac{e^{n\gamma}}{M_n} \tag{27}$$

for all separable states σ_n^{AB} . Choose a sequence of states $\sigma^{AB} = \{\sigma_n^{AB}\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, such that the divergence rate $\underline{D}(\rho^{AB}\|\sigma^{AB})$ is minimized. Then choosing $\gamma = \underline{D}(\rho^{AB}\|\sigma^{AB}) + \delta/2$, for some $\delta>0$, we can see that for any rate $\frac{1}{n}\log M_n \geq R = \underline{D}(\rho^{AB}\|\sigma^{AB}) + \delta$, the asymptotic fidelity is bounded above by $1-\epsilon_0$ for some $\epsilon_0>0$.

IV. ENTANGLEMENT CONCENTRATION

Entanglement concentration is the protocol in which two parties, Alice and Bob (say), share a sequence of partially entangled pure states $\{|\phi_n\rangle\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, with $|\phi_n\rangle\in\mathcal{H}_A^{(n)}\otimes\mathcal{H}_B^{(n)}$ and they wish to convert them into a sequence of maximally entangled pure states $\{|\Psi_{M_n}^+\rangle\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, where

$$|\Psi_{M_n}^+\rangle := \frac{1}{\sqrt{M_n}} \sum_{i=1}^{M_n} |i_n^A\rangle \otimes |i_n^B\rangle \in \mathcal{H}_A^{(n)} \otimes \mathcal{H}_B^{(n)},$$

by LOCC alone.

Entanglement concentration may be utilized to determine the distillable entanglement of sequences of pure bipartite states. The main result presented in this section is the following theorem [16].

Theorem 3 (Hayashi): The distillable entanglement of a sequence of bipartite pure states $\phi^{AB} = \{\phi_n^{AB}\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, is given by

$$E_D = S(\rho) \tag{28}$$

for $\rho = \{ \operatorname{Tr}_A \phi_n^{AB} \}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, the sequence of subsystem states.

The proof of Theorem 3 requires the following three lemmas

Lemma 4: (Coding) Given a sequence of bipartite pure states $\phi^{AB} = \{\phi_n^{AB}\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, for any $\epsilon > 0$ and $\delta > 0$, there exists an N such that $\forall n \geq N$, maximally entangled states may be generated at a rate

$$R \ge \underline{S}(\rho) - \delta,\tag{29}$$

with probability of failure

$$P_{\text{fail}} \le \epsilon.$$
 (30)

Here $\rho = \{\rho_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is the sequence of reduced states of the pure bipartite states in ϕ^{AB} .

Proof: Let the bipartite state $|\phi_n\rangle\in\mathcal{H}_A^{(n)}\otimes\mathcal{H}_B^{(n)}$ have a spectral decomposition

$$|\phi_n\rangle = \sum_i \sqrt{\lambda_{n,i}} |i_n^A\rangle \otimes |i_n^B\rangle.$$
 (31)

Define projection operators $Q_n = \{\rho_n < e^{-n\gamma}I_n\}$ and $\overline{Q}_n = I_n - Q_n$. The first step of the protocol is for one of the parties (say, Alice) to do a von Neumann measurement, described by the projection operators Q_n and \overline{Q}_n , on her part of the shared bipartite state $|\phi_n\rangle$. If the outcome of the measurement corresponds to \overline{Q}_n , then the protocol is aborted as unsuccessful. This occurs with probability $P_{\text{fail}} = \text{Tr}[\overline{Q}_n\rho_n]$.

If the outcome of the measurement corresponds to Q_n , then the post-measurement state is given by

$$|\psi_n\rangle := \frac{1}{\sqrt{\text{Tr}[Q_n \rho_n]}} \sum_{\lambda_{n,i} < e^{-n\gamma}} \sqrt{\lambda_{n,i}} |i_n^A\rangle |i_n^B\rangle,$$
 (32)

and each of the eigenvalues of the reduced density matrix of this state is bounded above by

$$\lambda_{n,i} \le \frac{e^{-n\gamma}}{\text{Tr}[Q_n \rho_n]} \tag{33}$$

Nielsen's majorization theorem [5] states that a bipartite pure state Φ with subsystem state ρ , may be converted by (one-way) LOCC into the pure state Ψ with subsystem state ω , if and only if the ordered eigenvalues of ρ are *majorized* by those of ω . Specifically,

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k} \lambda_{\rho}^{k} \le \sum_{i=1}^{k} \lambda_{\omega}^{k} \tag{34}$$

for all k, where $\lambda_{\rho}^{j} \geq \lambda_{\rho}^{j+1}$ and similarly $\lambda_{\omega}^{j} \geq \lambda_{\omega}^{j+1}$, for all $j \in \{1,...,d-1\}$.

It follows from Nielsen's theorem that the state $|\psi_n\rangle$ may be transformed by one-way LOCC into the maximally entangled state $|\Psi_{M_n}^+\rangle$ of rank

$$M_n = |\operatorname{Tr}[Q_n \rho_n] e^{n\gamma}| \tag{35}$$

as the eigenvalues all obey the inequality in (33). This concludes the protocol.

For any choice of γ such that $P_{\mathrm{fail}} = \mathrm{Tr}[\overline{Q}_n \rho_n] < 1/2$, and large enough n, the achievable rate is given by

$$R = \frac{1}{n} \log M_n$$

$$\geq \gamma - \frac{2}{n} (\epsilon_n + e^{-n\gamma})$$
(36)

where $\epsilon_n=1-\mathrm{Tr}[Q_n\rho_n]$. This can be seen by using the fact that $\lfloor Ce^{n\gamma}\rfloor \geq Ce^{n\gamma}-1=e^{n\gamma}(C-e^{-n\gamma})$ and $\log(1-x)\geq -2x$ for $x\leq 3/4$.

Choosing $\gamma = \underline{S}(\rho) - \delta/2$ implies that $\text{Tr}[Q_n \rho_n] \to 1$ as $n \to \infty$, and therefore we can choose an N such that both

$$Tr[Q_n \rho_n] \ge 1 - \epsilon \tag{37}$$

and

$$\frac{1}{n}(\epsilon_n + e^{-n\gamma}) \le \frac{\delta}{4} \tag{38}$$

whenever $n \geq N$.

To prove the weak converse for entanglement concentration we require the following property of the conditional spectral entropy for bipartite pure states.

Lemma 5: Let $\sigma_n^{AB} := \mathcal{T}_n^{AB} (\phi_n^{AB})$, where $\phi_n^{AB} \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_A^{(n)} \otimes \mathcal{H}_B^{(n)})$ and \mathcal{T}_n^{AB} denotes any LOCC operation. Let $\overline{S}_{\phi}(A|B)$ denote the sup-spectral conditional entropy $\overline{S}(A|B)$ for the sequence of pure state $\phi^{AB} := \{\phi_n^{AB}\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$. Let $\overline{S}_{\sigma}(A|B)$ be the corresponding quantity for the sequence $\sigma^{AB} := \{\sigma_n^{AB}\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$. Then the inequality

$$\overline{S}_{\phi}(A|B) \le \overline{S}_{\sigma}(A|B).$$
 (39)

holds.

Proof: Note that

$$-\overline{S}_{\phi}(A|B) := \underline{D}(\phi^{AB}|I^{A} \otimes \operatorname{Tr}_{A}\phi^{AB}),$$

and

$$-\overline{S}_{\sigma}(A|B) := \underline{D}(\sigma^{AB}|I^{A} \otimes \operatorname{Tr}_{A}\sigma^{AB})$$

$$= \underline{D}(\mathcal{T}^{AB}(\phi^{AB})|I^{A} \otimes \operatorname{Tr}_{A}\mathcal{T}^{AB}(\phi^{AB})),$$
(40)

where $\mathcal{T}^{AB}:=\{\mathcal{T}_n^{AB}\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, a sequence of LOCC operations and $\mathrm{Tr}_A\mathcal{T}^{AB}(\phi^{AB})=\{\mathrm{Tr}_{A_n}\mathcal{T}_n^{AB}(\phi_n^{AB})\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, with Tr_{A_n} denoting the partial trace over the Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}_A^{(n)}$. The action of the LOCC operation \mathcal{T}_n^{AB} on the state ϕ_n^{AB} can be expressed as follows (see [21]):

$$\mathcal{T}_n^{AB}(\phi_n^{AB}) = \sum_j (U_{n,j} \otimes K_{n,j})(\phi_n^{AB})(U_{n,j}^{\dagger} \otimes K_{n,j}^{\dagger}), \quad (41)$$

where the $U_{n,j}$ are unitary operators and $K_{n,j}$ are operators such that $\sum_j K_{n,j}^\dagger K_{n,j} = I$. Denoting the reduced state $\omega_n^B = {\rm Tr}_A \phi_n^{AB}$, it then follows that

$$\mathcal{T}_{n}^{AB} \left(I_{n}^{A} \otimes \omega_{n}^{B} \right) = \sum_{j} U_{n,j} U_{n,j}^{\dagger} \otimes K_{n,j} \omega_{n}^{B} K_{n,j}^{\dagger}
= I_{n}^{A} \otimes \sum_{j} K_{n,j} \omega_{n}^{B} K_{n,j}^{\dagger}
= I_{n}^{A} \otimes \sigma_{n}^{B}$$
(42)

and hence,

$$-\overline{S}_{\sigma}(A|B) = \underline{D}(\sigma^{AB}|I^{A} \otimes \operatorname{Tr}_{A}\sigma^{AB})$$

$$= \underline{D}(\mathcal{T}^{AB}(\phi^{AB})|\mathcal{T}^{AB}(I^{A} \otimes \operatorname{Tr}_{A}\phi^{AB}))$$

$$\leq \underline{D}(\phi^{AB}|I^{A} \otimes \operatorname{Tr}_{A}\phi^{AB})$$

$$= -\overline{S}_{\phi}(A|B)$$
(43)

where the inequality follows from Lemma 2.

It is then straightforward to show the weak converse.

Lemma 6: (Weak Converse) Any entanglement concentration protocol with rate $R > \underline{S}(\rho)$ is not achievable. Here $\rho = \{ \operatorname{Tr}_A \phi_n^{AB} \}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, with ϕ_n^{AB} denoting the pure bipartite initial states of the entanglement concentration process.

Proof: Combining Theorem 2 with the Chain Rule [15]

$$\underline{S}(AB) - \underline{S}(B) \le \overline{S}(A|B)$$

$$\le \overline{S}(AB) - \underline{S}(B), \tag{44}$$

and the fact that $\underline{S}(AB) = 0 = \overline{S}(A|B)$ for sequences of pure states on AB, yields the identity $\overline{S}(A|B) = -\underline{S}(B)$. This along with Lemma 5 implies that for any rate

$$R > -\overline{S}_{\phi}(A|B) = \underline{S}(\rho),$$
 (45)

where $\rho = \{ \operatorname{Tr}_A \phi_n^{AB} \}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, the asymptotic fidelity is bounded above by $1 - \epsilon_0$ for some $\epsilon_0 > 0$.

The strong converse rate for entanglement concentration is defined as the infimum of all rates, such that any distillation protocol of that rate has asymptotic fidelity $\mathcal{F}=0$.

Corollary 1: The strong converse rate for entanglement concentration is given by

$$E_D^* = \overline{S}(\rho) \tag{46}$$

for ρ the sequence of subsystem states.

Proof: The proof follows the proof of the coding and weak converse.

V. ENTANGLEMENT DILUTION

Entanglement dilution is the protocol which is essentially opposite to entanglement concentration. Here the two parties, Alice and Bob, share a sequence of maximally entangled states $\{|\Psi_{M_n}^+\rangle\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, where

$$|\Psi_{M_n}^+\rangle := \frac{1}{\sqrt{M_n}} \sum_{i=1}^{M_n} |i\rangle \otimes |i\rangle \in \mathcal{H}_A^{(n)} \otimes \mathcal{H}_B^{(n)},$$

and wish to convert them into a sequence of non-maximally entangled pure states $\{|\phi_n\rangle\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, with $|\phi_n\rangle\in\mathcal{H}_A^{(n)}\otimes\mathcal{H}_B^{(n)}$, and with corresponding reduced density matrices $\rho_n^A\in\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_A^{(n)})$.

Let the bipartite state $|\phi_n\rangle$ have N_n non-zero eigenvalues and let its spectral decomposition be given by

$$|\phi_n\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} \sqrt{\lambda_{n,k}} |k\rangle \otimes |k\rangle,$$
 (47)

where the eigenvalues $\lambda_{n,k}$ are arranged in descending order, i.e., $\lambda_{n,1} \geq \lambda_{n,2} \geq \ldots \geq \lambda_{n,N_n}$. If $M_n \geq N_n$, then Alice can perfectly teleport the state $|\phi_n\rangle$ to Bob, using her part of

the maximally entangled state $|\Psi^+_{M_n}\rangle$. Hence, in this case the fidelity of the entanglement dilution protocol is equal to unity.

However, if $M_n < N_n$, then Alice can perfectly teleport only the unnormalized truncated state

$$|\Phi_{M_n}\rangle := P_{M_n}|\phi_n\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^{M_n} \sqrt{\lambda_{n,k}}|k\rangle \otimes |k\rangle.$$
 (48)

Here P_{M_n} denotes the orthogonal projection onto the M_n largest eigenvalues of $|\phi_n\rangle$. In this case the fidelity is bounded below by

$$F_{n} \geq \left| \langle \phi_{n} | \Phi_{M_{n}} \rangle \right|^{2}$$

$$= \left| \sum_{k=1}^{N_{n}} \sum_{j=1}^{M_{n}} \sqrt{\lambda_{n,k}} \sqrt{\lambda_{n,j}} \langle k | j \rangle \langle k | j \rangle \right|^{2}$$

$$= \left| \sum_{k=1}^{M_{n}} \lambda_{n,k} \right|^{2}.$$
(49)

Although this protocol initially appears to be far from optimal, we show, in the proof of the following theorem, that for asymptotically reliable entanglement dilution, it is sufficient to obtain rates arbitrarily close to the entanglement cost.

Theorem 4: The entanglement cost of a sequence of pure bipartite target states $\phi^{AB} = \{\phi_n^{AB}\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, is given by

$$E_C = \overline{S}(\rho), \tag{50}$$

where $\rho = \{ \operatorname{Tr}_A \phi_n^{AB} \}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, the sequence of subsystem states. The proof is contained in the following two lemmas.

Lemma 7: (Coding) For any $\delta > 0$, the dilution rate $R^* = \overline{S}(\rho) + \delta$ is achievable.

Proof: Suppose Alice teleports the unnormalized states

$$|\Phi_n\rangle := Q_n |\phi_n\rangle,\tag{51}$$

where $Q_n := \{ \rho_n^A \ge e^{-n\alpha} I_n^A \} \otimes I_n^B$, and α is a real number satisfying $\alpha > \overline{S}(\rho^A)$, with ρ^A being the sequence of reduced density matrices of $|\phi_n\rangle\langle\phi_n|$, i.e., $\rho^A = \{\rho_n^A\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$. From the definition of $\overline{S}(\rho^A)$ it follows that

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \text{Tr}\left[\left\{\rho_n^A \ge e^{-n\alpha} I_n^A\right\} \rho_n^A\right] = 1. \tag{52}$$

Hence, in this case the fidelity is given by

$$F_{n} \geq \langle \phi_{n} | Q_{n} | \phi_{n} \rangle$$

$$= \operatorname{Tr} \left[\left(\left\{ \rho_{n}^{A} \geq e^{-n\alpha} I_{n}^{A} \right\} \otimes I_{n}^{B} \right) | \phi_{n} \rangle \langle \phi_{n} | \right]$$

$$= \operatorname{Tr} \left[\left\{ \rho_{n}^{A} \geq e^{-n\alpha} I_{n}^{A} \right\} \rho_{n}^{A} \right] \to 1 \text{ as } n \to \infty.$$
 (53)

Since $\operatorname{Tr}[\{\rho_n^A \geq e^{-n\alpha}I_n^A\}] \leq e^{n\alpha}$, then for large enough n we can choose $e^{n\overline{S}(\rho)} < M_n \leq e^{n(\overline{S}(\rho)+\delta)}$ and entanglement dilution with a sequence of maximally entangled states $\{|\Psi_{M_n}^+\rangle\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ of rank M_n , is asymptotically achievable.

Lemma 8: (Weak Converse) Any entanglement dilution protocol with a rate $R^* < \overline{S}(\rho)$ is not reliable.

Proof: Let \mathcal{T}_n^{AB} denote any LOCC operation used for transforming the maximally entangled state $|\Psi_{M_n}^+\rangle \in \mathcal{H}_A^{(n)} \otimes \mathcal{H}_B^{(n)}$ to a partially entangled state $|\phi_n\rangle$ in this Hilbert space.

Using (41), the fidelity of this transformation is expressible as $F_n = \mathrm{Tr} \big[|\phi_n\rangle \langle \phi_n| \mathcal{T}_n^{AB} \big(|\Psi_{M_n}^+\rangle \langle \Psi_{M_n}^+| \big) \big]$

$$= \langle \phi_n | \sum_k (K_{n,k} \otimes U_{n,k}) | \Psi_{M_n}^+ \rangle \langle \Psi_{M_n}^+ | (K_{n,k} \otimes U_{n,k})^\dagger | \phi_n \rangle$$
$$= \sum_k |\langle \phi_n | (K_{n,k} \otimes U_{n,k}) | \Psi_{M_n}^+ \rangle|^2. \tag{54}$$

Let the state $|\phi_n\rangle$ have a Schmidt decomposition $|\phi_n\rangle=\sum_i\sqrt{\lambda_{n,i}}|i\rangle\otimes|i\rangle$. Then

$$U_{n,k}^{B}|\Psi_{M_{n}}^{+}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M_{n}}} \sum_{\tilde{j}=1}^{M_{n}} |\tilde{j}^{A}\rangle U_{n,k}^{B}|\tilde{j}^{B}\rangle$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{M_{n}}} P_{M_{n}}^{A} \sum_{j=1}^{N} W^{A}|j^{A}\rangle U_{n,k}^{B} W^{B}|j^{B}\rangle,$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{M_{n}}} P_{M_{n}}^{A} \sum_{j=1}^{N} V_{n,k}^{A}|j^{A}\rangle|j^{B}\rangle, \tag{55}$$

where $N=\dim\mathcal{H}^{(n)},\,W|j\rangle=|\widetilde{j}\rangle,\,V_{n,k}=(U_{n,k}W)^TW$ and $P_{M_n}^A=\sum_{\widetilde{j}=1}^{M_n}|\widetilde{j}^A\rangle\langle\widetilde{j}^A|$. Here we have used the relation

$$\sum_{j} |j\rangle \otimes U|j\rangle = U^{T}|j\rangle \otimes |j\rangle$$

for U unitary and $\{|j\rangle\}$ an orthonormal basis. Hence,

$$\langle \phi_{n}|K_{n,k} \otimes U_{n,k}|\Psi_{M_{n}}^{\dagger}\rangle = \sum_{ij} \frac{\sqrt{\lambda_{n,i}}}{\sqrt{M_{n}}} \langle i|K_{n,k}P_{M_{n}}V_{n,k}|j\rangle \langle i|j\rangle$$

$$= \sum_{i} \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_{n,i}}{M_{n}}} \langle i|K_{n,k}P_{M_{n}}V_{n,k}|i\rangle$$

$$= \operatorname{Tr}\left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{M_{n}}} \sqrt{\sigma_{n}}K_{n,k}P_{M_{n}}V_{n,k}\right],$$
(56)

where $\sigma_n = \text{Tr}_B |\phi_n\rangle\langle\phi_n| = \sum_i \lambda_{n,i} |i\rangle\langle i|$. Using the Cauchy Schwarz inequality we have

$$F_{n} = \sum_{k} \left| \operatorname{Tr} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{M_{n}}} \sqrt{\sigma_{n}} K_{n,k} P_{M_{n}} V_{n,k} \right] \right|^{2}$$

$$= \sum_{k} \left| \operatorname{Tr} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{M_{n}}} K_{n,k} P_{M_{n}} \cdot P_{M_{n}} V_{n,k} \sqrt{\sigma_{n}} \right] \right|^{2}$$

$$\leq \sum_{k} \frac{1}{M_{n}} \operatorname{Tr} \left[P_{M_{n}} K_{n,k}^{\dagger} K_{n,k} \right] \cdot \operatorname{Tr} \left[\sigma_{n} V_{n,k}^{\dagger} P_{M_{n}} V_{n,k} \right]$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{M_{n}} \operatorname{Tr} \left[P_{M_{n}} \right] \cdot \max_{k'} \operatorname{Tr} \left[V_{n,k'}^{\dagger} P_{M_{n}} V_{n,k'} \sigma_{n} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{M_{n}} \operatorname{Tr} \left[P_{M_{n}} \right] \cdot \max_{k'} \operatorname{Tr} \left[P_{n,k'} \sigma_{n} \right]$$

$$= \max_{k'} \operatorname{Tr} \left[P_{n,k'} \sigma_{n} \right], \tag{57}$$

since $\text{Tr}[P_{M_n}] = M_n$. In the above, $P_{n,k'} = V_{n,k'}^{\dagger} P_{M_n} V_{n,k'}$. Using Lemma 1, we have

$$\operatorname{Tr}[P_{n,k'}\sigma_n] = \operatorname{Tr}[P_{n,k'}(\sigma_n - e^{-n\gamma}I_n)] + e^{-n\gamma}\operatorname{Tr}P_{n,k'},$$

$$\leq \operatorname{Tr}[\{\sigma_n \geq e^{-n\gamma}I_n\}(\sigma_n - e^{-n\gamma}I_n)]$$

$$+ e^{-n\gamma}\operatorname{Tr}P_{n,k'}$$

$$= \operatorname{Tr}[\{\sigma_n \geq e^{-n\gamma}I_n\}(\sigma_n - e^{-n\gamma}I_n)]$$

$$+ M_n e^{-n\gamma}, \tag{58}$$

since $\operatorname{Tr}[P_{n,k'}] = \operatorname{Tr}[P_{M_n}] = M_n$. Hence for $M_n \leq e^{nR}$ we have

$$F_n \le \text{Tr}[\{\sigma_n \ge e^{-n\gamma}I_n\}(\sigma_n - e^{-n\gamma}I_n)] + e^{-n(\gamma - R)}.$$
 (59)

Choosing a number γ and $\delta > 0$ such that $R = \gamma + \delta < \overline{S}(\sigma)$, for $\sigma = \{\sigma_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, the second term on RHS of (59) tends to zero as $n \to \infty$. However, since $\gamma < \overline{S}(\sigma)$ the first term on RHS of (59) does not converge to 1 as $n \to \infty$. Hence, the asymptotic fidelity $\mathcal F$ is not equal to 1.

The strong converse rate for entanglement dilution is the supremum of all rates such that any dilution protocol has asymptotic fidelity $\mathcal{F}=0$.

Corollary 2: The strong converse rate for entanglement dilution is given by

$$E_C^* = \underline{S}(\rho) \tag{60}$$

for ρ the sequence of subsystem states.

Proof: The proof follows as for the coding and weak converse.

VI. DISCUSSION

As explicitly shown in Lemma 3 of [22], the von Neumann entropy rate is bounded above and below by the sup-spectral entropy and inf-spectral entropy rates, respectively. For any sequence of bipartite pure states that is information stable on its subsystems, this implies

$$\underline{S}(\rho) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} S(\rho_n) = \overline{S}(\rho) \tag{61}$$

and the asymptotic entanglement of the sequence is given by the von Neumann entropy rate of the subsystem states

$$E = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} S(\rho_n) . \tag{62}$$

The set of information stable sequences includes all those sequences whose subsystem states are stationary and ergodic. For the i.i.d. case, i.e., one in which $\phi_n^{AB} = \phi^{\otimes n}$, where ϕ is a pure state on $\mathcal{H}_A \otimes \mathcal{H}_B$, (62) reduces to

$$E = S(\rho), \tag{63}$$

for $\rho = \text{Tr}_B \phi$.

An example of a sequence of pure bipartite states which is not information stable are those that have subsystem states that can be represented as mixtures of tensor product states with different von Neumann entropies, i.e., a sequence with subsystem states

$$\rho_n = t \, \sigma^{\otimes n} + (1 - t) \, \omega^{\otimes n} \tag{64}$$

with $t \in (0,1)$, such that $S(\sigma) < S(\omega)$. From the results in Section III-B of [22] it then follows that

$$E_D = S(\sigma) < S(\omega) = E_C \tag{65}$$

for this sequence of states.

Furthermore, by examining the rates achievable for dense coding through a noiseless channel [22], it is easily seen that

the capacity of the noiseless channel assisted by a sequence of shared bipartite pure states, is given by

$$C_{DC} = \log d - \overline{S}_{\phi}(A|B)$$

$$= \log d + \underline{S}(\rho)$$

$$= \log d + E_{D}, \qquad (66)$$

where $\rho = \{ \operatorname{Tr}_A \phi_n^{AB} \}_{n=1}^\infty$. Hence, the dense coding capacity is enhanced over the capacity of the noiseless channel $(C = \log d)$ by the distillable entanglement of the shared sequence of states. In this regard, the distillable entanglement represents the usefulness of the shared states as an entanglement resource.

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